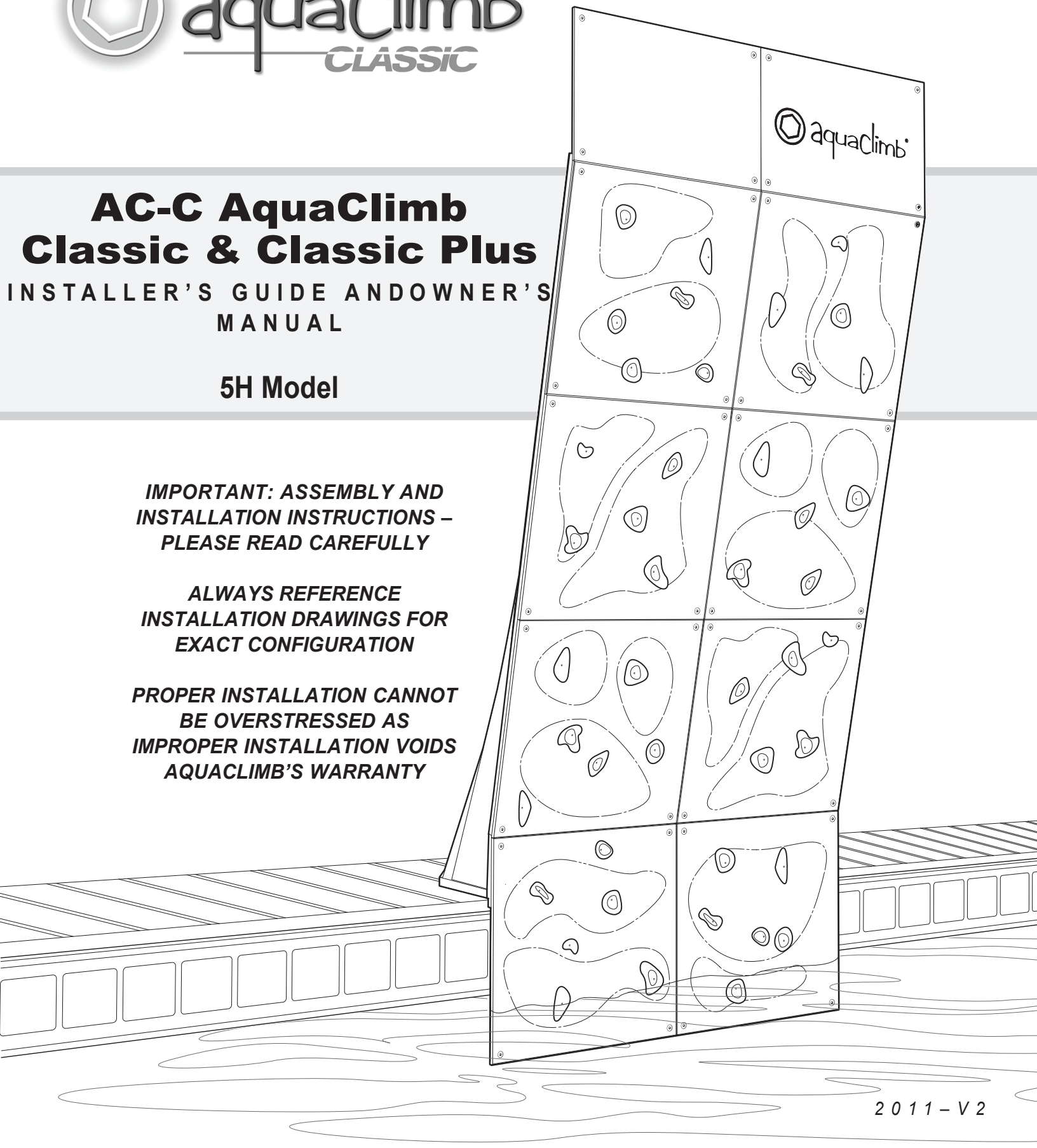
aquaClimb®
CLASSIC

AC-C AquaClimb Classic & Classic Plus

INSTALLER'S GUIDE ANDOWNER'S MANUAL

5H Model



IMPORTANT: ASSEMBLY AND INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS – PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

ALWAYS REFERENCE INSTALLATION DRAWINGS FOR EXACT CONFIGURATION

PROPER INSTALLATION CANNOT BE OVERSTRESSED AS IMPROPER INSTALLATION VOIDS AQUACLIMB'S WARRANTY

2011 – V2

Packing List for AquaClimb 5H

Item Code	Description	Qty	Count	Checked
Sep Base	**Separate Base - 304 SS**	**1**		
Top Frame	**Pre-Assembled Top Frame - 304 SS**	**1**		
	AquaClimb Panels	1		
	AquaClimb Holds	5		
	Clear Panel	1		
Middle Frame	**Pre-Assembled Middle Frame - 304 SS**	**1**		
	AquaClimb Panels	1		
	AquaClimb Holds	5		
Bottom Frame	**Pre-Assembled Bottom Frame - 304 SS**	**1**		
	AquaClimb Panels	2		
	AquaClimb Holds	10		
Linkage	**Pre-assembled connection parts for Top, Middle and Bottom Frames**	**1**		
	3-1/2" Upper Stabilizer Arms	2		
	12" Lower Stabilizer Arms	2		
	3/8" x 36" Long Stainless Steel Threaded Rod	2		
	3/8" Stainless Steel Nyloc Nuts	4		
Asy Kit 4x1	**Assembly Kit 4x1 - 304 SS**	**1**		
	4H Curved Diagonals	2		
Safety Kit	**AquaClimb Safety Kit**	**1**		
	AquaClimb Safety Sign	1		

Standard Hardware Packs Included With Every 5H AquaClimb

Pack Code	Name	Hardware	Qty
AC-C-BAP-Std	Base Anchor Pack - Standard		
		5/8" x 6" Powers 304 SS Wedge Anchors	6
		5/8" 304 SS Flat Washer	6
		5/8" Split Lock Washer	6
		5/8" SS Nut	6
		2-1/4" Clevis Pin	2
		1/8" Cotter Pin	2
		1/2" Washer	2
AC-C-FCP	Frame Connector Pack		
		HDPE .75 OD .438 ID x 1-5/8" long Spacer Tube	7
		3/8"-16 x 6" Hex Cap Screw T-316	7
		3/8" Fibreglass Nuts	7
		3/8" Washer	14
		3/8" Lock Washer	7
AC-C-DBCP	Diagonal Brace Connector Pack		
		3/8"-16 x 2-1/2" Hex Cap Screw	8
		3/8" Fibreglass Nuts	8
		3/8" Flat Washer	16
		3/8" Lock Washer	8
AC-C-SP	Spacer Pack		
		1/2" Thick Nylon Spacer	6
		1" Thick Nylon Spacer	6

Additional Items Required For Some Gutter Configurations

Pack Code	Name	Hardware	Qty
AC-C-BAP-Long	Base Anchor Pack - Long		
		5/8" x 8 1/2" Powers 18-8 SS Wedge Anchors	6
		5/8" 304 SS Flat Washer	6
		5/8" Split Lock Washer	6
		5/8" SS Nut	6
		2-1/4" Clevis Pin	2
		1/8" Cotter Pin	2
		1/2" Washer	2
AC-C-EAS-5"	Elevated Anchor System - up to 5" step		
	SET OF TWO	3/4" x 6" Powers 18-8 SS Wedge Anchors	2
		3/4" 304 SS Flat Washer	4
		3/4" Coupling Nut SS 304	2
		3/4" Custom Leveling Pad	2
		3/4" SS Nut	4
		3/4" Threaded Rod Std 6"	2
AC-C-EAS-7"	Elevated Anchor System - up to 7" step		
	SET OF TWO	3/4" x 6" Powers 18-8 SS Wedge Anchors	2
		3/4" 304 SS Flat Washer	4
		3/4" Coupling Nut SS 304	2
		3/4" Custom Leveling Pad	2
		3/4" SS Nut	4
		3/4" Threaded Rod Long 8"	2
AC-C-SL-4"	Support Legs - 2 per base - 4" drop		
	SET OF TWO	5/8" Threaded Rod Std 6"	2
		5/8" Welded Nut & Washer	4
		5/8" Nyloc & Washer	2
AC-C-SL-6"	Support Legs - 2 per base - 6" drop		
	SET OF TWO	5/8" Threaded Rod Long 8"	2
		5/8" Welded Nut & Washer	4
		5/8" Nyloc & Washer	2

Please read these important notes to help ensure a successful installation.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Information following this icon MUST be followed exactly or damage/injury may result.

VIDEO AVAILABLE

Information following this icon is also available in video form on YouTube.

Simply click on these icons (in this pdf) and the video pertaining to that page will launch automatically!

DO NOT TIGHTEN ANY BOLT UNTIL YOU ARE SPECIFICALLY INSTRUCTED TO "TIGHTEN" IT.

Until you are instructed to tighten, keep all bolts loose so the pieces are free to slide. Secure the nut onto the bolt only enough to prevent it from falling off. There are many components to your AquaClimb which all must line up properly. Keeping the bolts loose allows you the ability to slightly adjust positioning of the pieces to correct alignment issues. In the final steps of the assembly, you will be instructed at the proper time to verify the alignment of all sections and tighten the bolts.
5H requires 6 anchors per base.

DO NOT OVER-TIGHTEN BOLTS.

Over-tightening bolts can lead to damage or failure of your AquaClimb. It is strongly recommended to only use hand tools when assembling the frame. Avoid the usage of impact drivers or other power tools to assemble the frame.

TOOLS REQUIRED FOR INSTALLATION

- Rotary Hammer Drill
- 5/8" drill bit required for standard wedge anchors
- Level, 36" or longer
- 9/16" wrench – Qty 2 (socket wrenches acceptable)
- 15/16" wrench (socket wrenches acceptable)
- Mini Sledge
- Tape Measure
- Marking Pencil
- Small pry bar or large flat blade screwdriver for assisting in the alignment of the frames

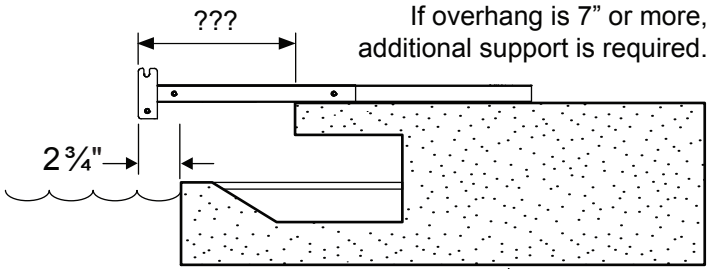
While not required, you will find it helpful to have a 7/32" allen wrench and a large flat head screw driver in case you need to adjust the positioning of your panels and climbing holds.

Pool Depth Requirements

AC-C-3H	6' Pool Depth (5' ALT model)
AC-C-4H	8' Pool Depth (6' ALT model)
AC-C-5H	9' Pool Depth (8' ALT model)

DO NOT INSTALL THE AQUACLIMB IN POOL DEPTHS SHALLOWER THAN RECOMMENDED.

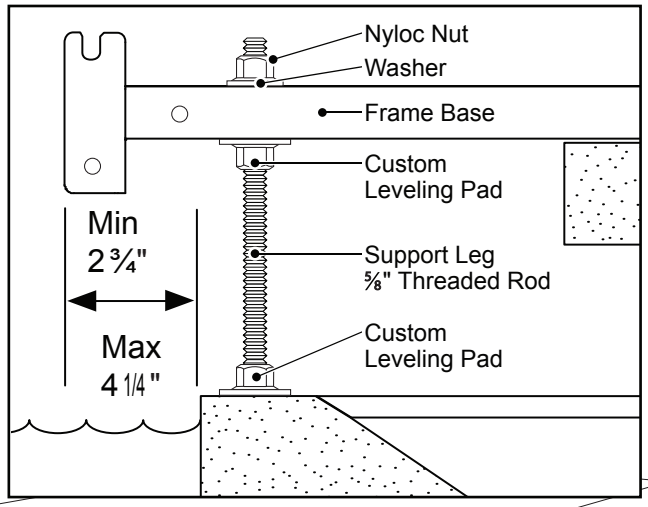
This installation guide shows a typical installation on a common deck configuration. In certain situations you will need to take additional steps to ensure a safe installation of your AquaClimb.

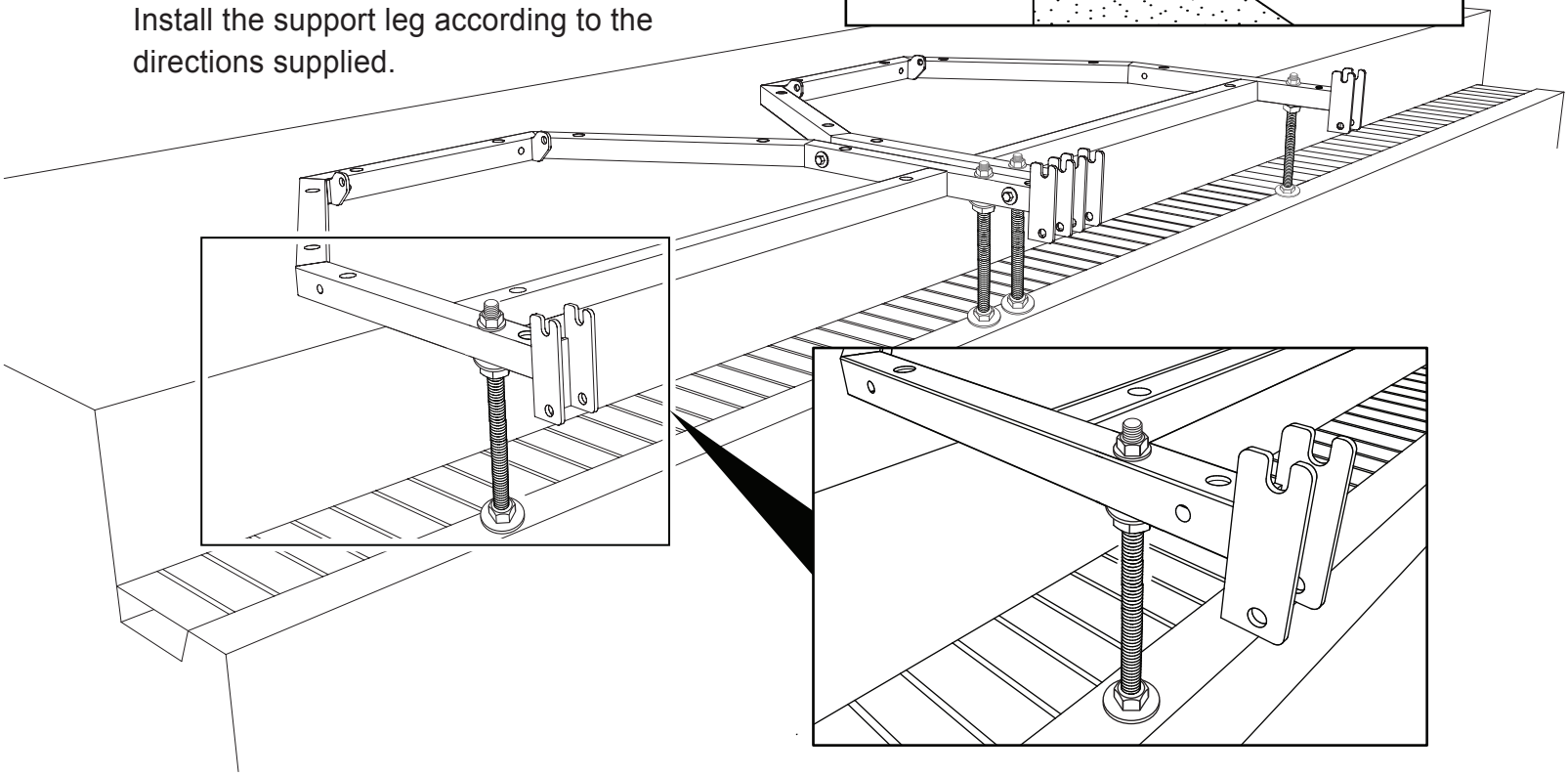


Scenario #1

BASE ARMS ARE UNSUPPORTED MORE THAN 7” PAST EDGE OF GUTTER

If your pool deck and/or gutter configuration causes your AquaClimb base to overhang by 7" or more from the last point of deck contact, you must install AquaClimb support legs (***AquaClimb Support Leg System – Part # AC-C-SL*** – *Sold Separately*).
Two legs are required for each base section. Install the support leg according to the directions supplied.



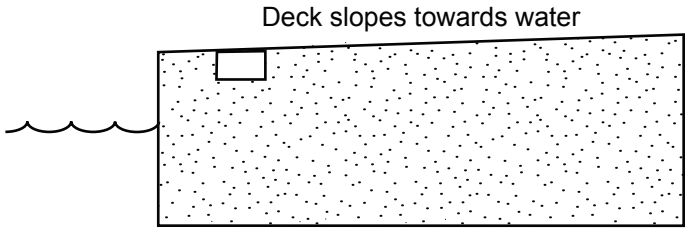


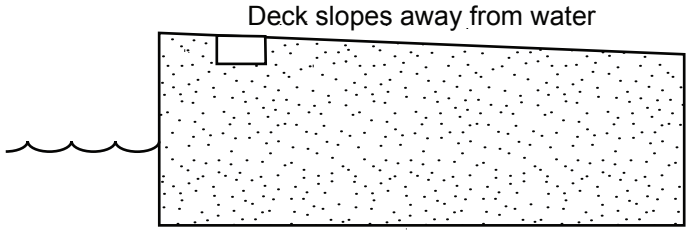
Scenario #2

SLOPING POOL DECKS

If your deck surface is not level and slopes towards or away from the pool, you will need to use nylon spacers to level the base.

Place nylon spacers provided between the base frame assembly and the pool deck to level out the base. The anchor bolt should go through the spacer so it can not shift out of position.



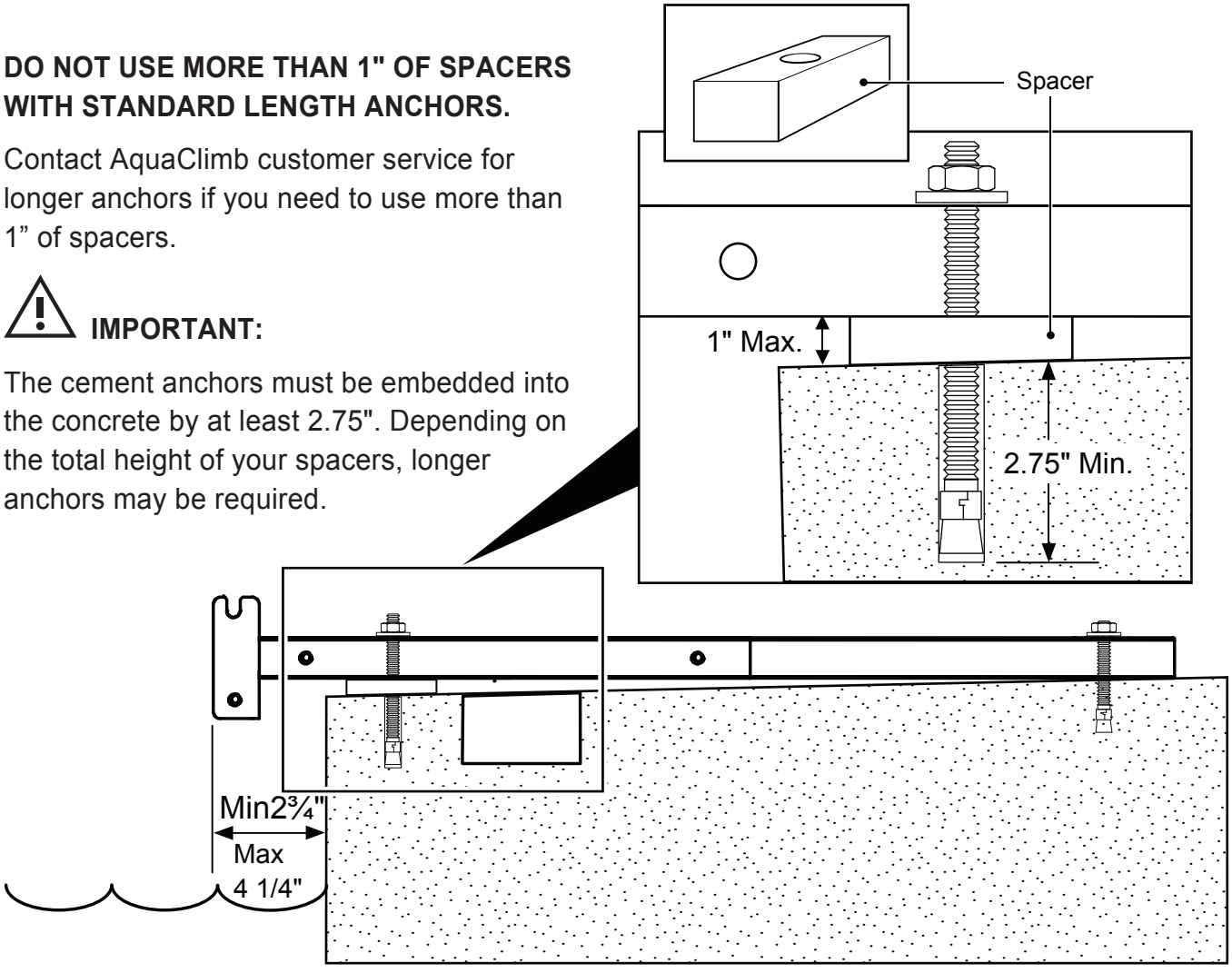


DO NOT USE MORE THAN 1" OF SPACERS WITH STANDARD LENGTH ANCHORS.

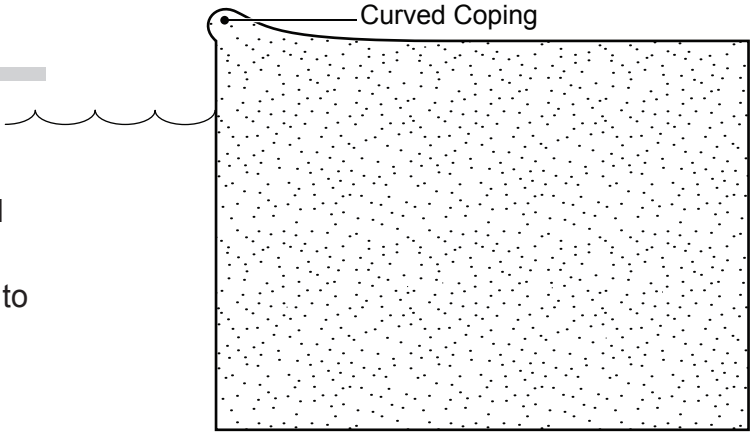
Contact AquaClimb customer service for longer anchors if you need to use more than 1” of spacers.

IMPORTANT:

The cement anchors must be embedded into the concrete by at least 2.75". Depending on the total height of your spacers, longer anchors may be required.



Scenario #3



COPING IS NOT FLAT

If your deck shape or coping is not flat, and your AquaClimb base can not be mounted flat and level, you will need to use spacers to raise the base assembly.

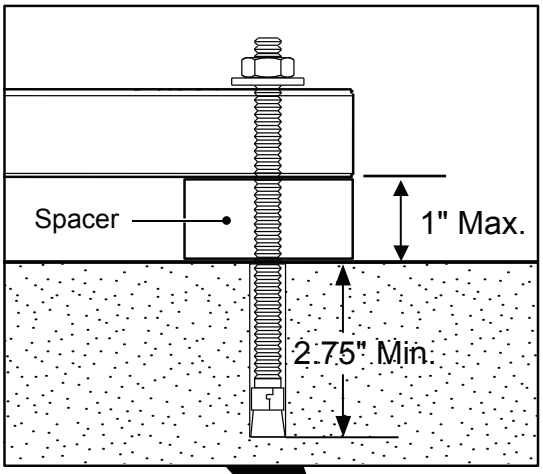
IMPORTANT:

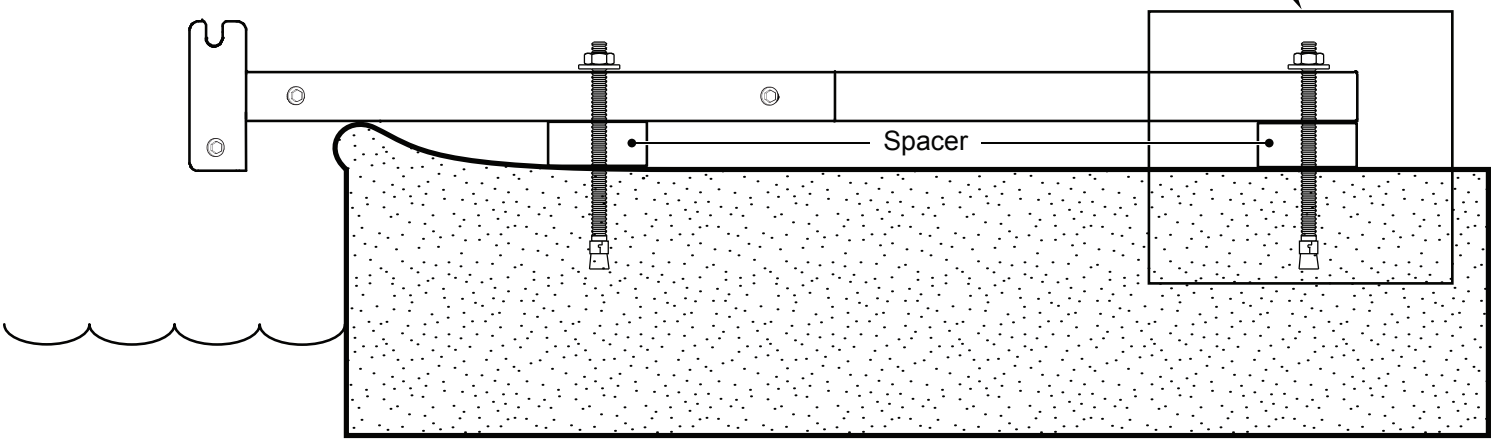
The cement anchors must be embedded into the concrete by at least 2.75". Depending on the total height of your spacers, longer anchors may be required.

Place nylon spacers between the base frame assembly and the pool deck to raise and level out the base. The anchor bolt should go through the spacer so it can not shift out of position.

DO NOT USE MORE THAN 1" OF SPACERS WITH STANDARD LENGTH ANCHORS.

Contact AquaClimb customer service for longer anchors if you need to use more than 1” of spacers.





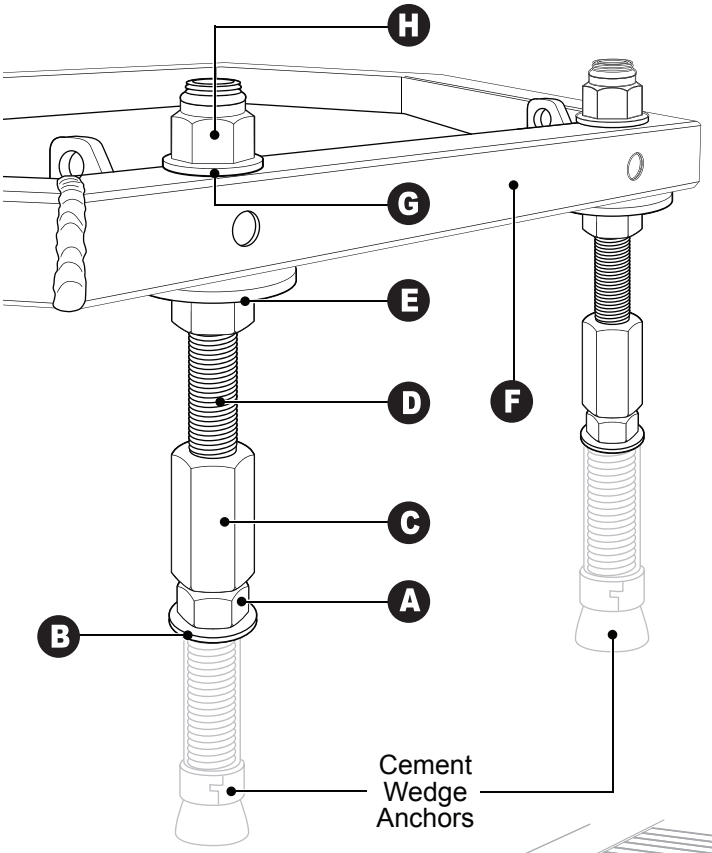
Scenario #4

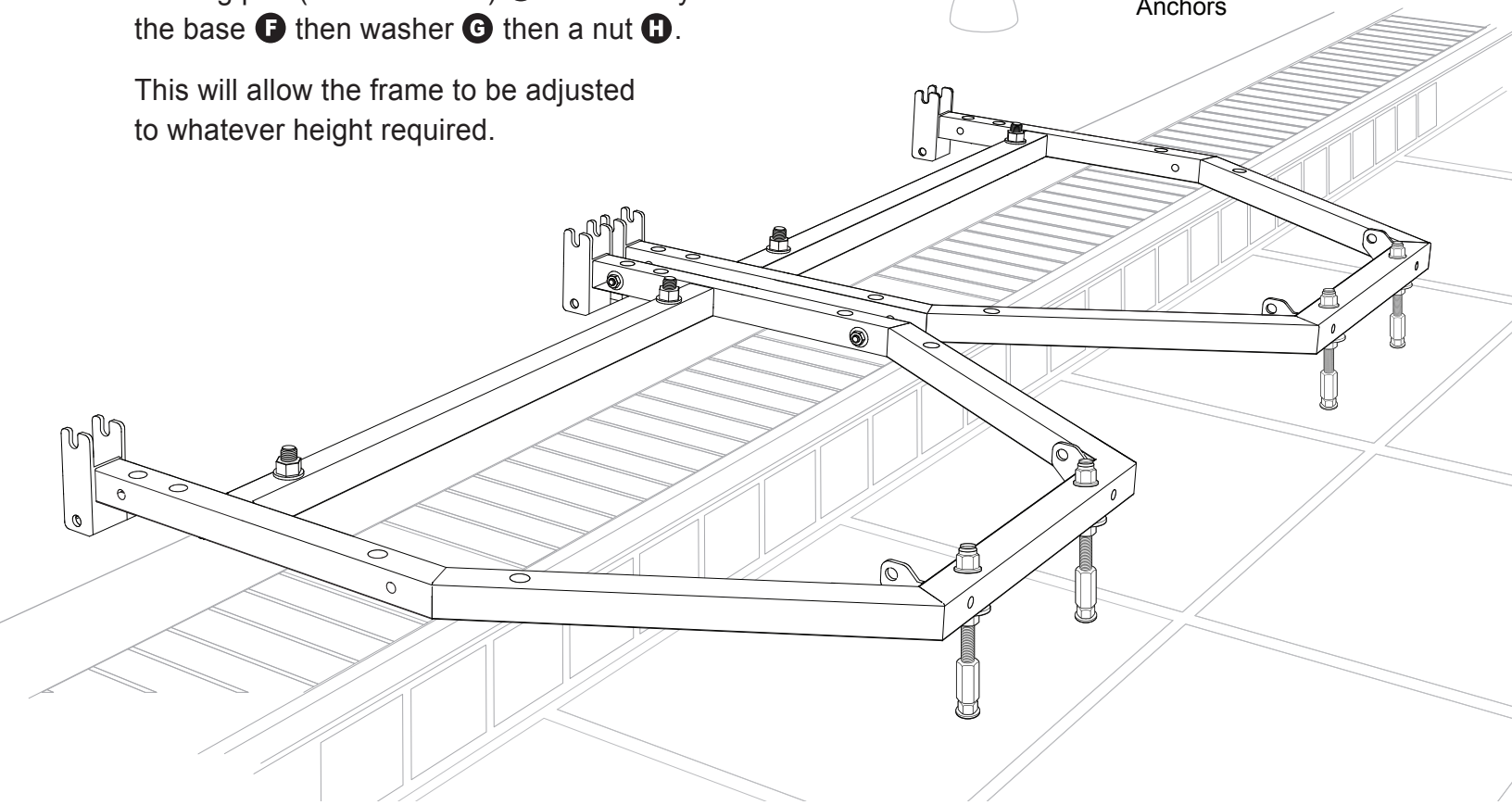
CURB OR OBSTRUCTION ON POOL DECK

The following items (***AquaClimb Elevated Anchor System – Part # AC-C-EAS*** – *Sold Separately*) are used to elevate the base in situations where the pool deck has a curb or obstruction to allow the base to sit flat and level on the deck surface.

Drill and set ¾" Wedge anchors into the concrete as described in step 3, page 7. Tighten down the nut Ⓐ with a washer Ⓑ to full torque. Put on the end of the anchor a ¾" x 2-1/2" long coupling nut Ⓒ followed by ¾" threaded rod Ⓓ, then a custom leveling pad (¾" nut/washer) Ⓔ followed by the base Ⓕ then washer Ⓖ then a nut Ⓗ.

This will allow the frame to be adjusted to whatever height required.





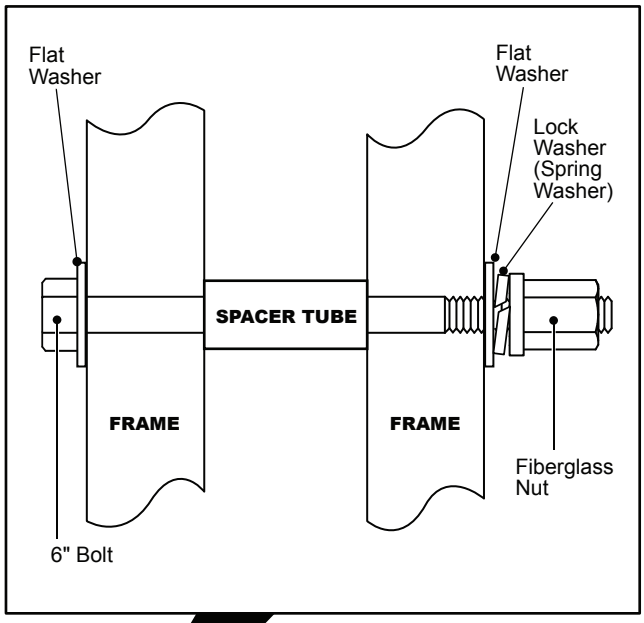
Connecting the Bases

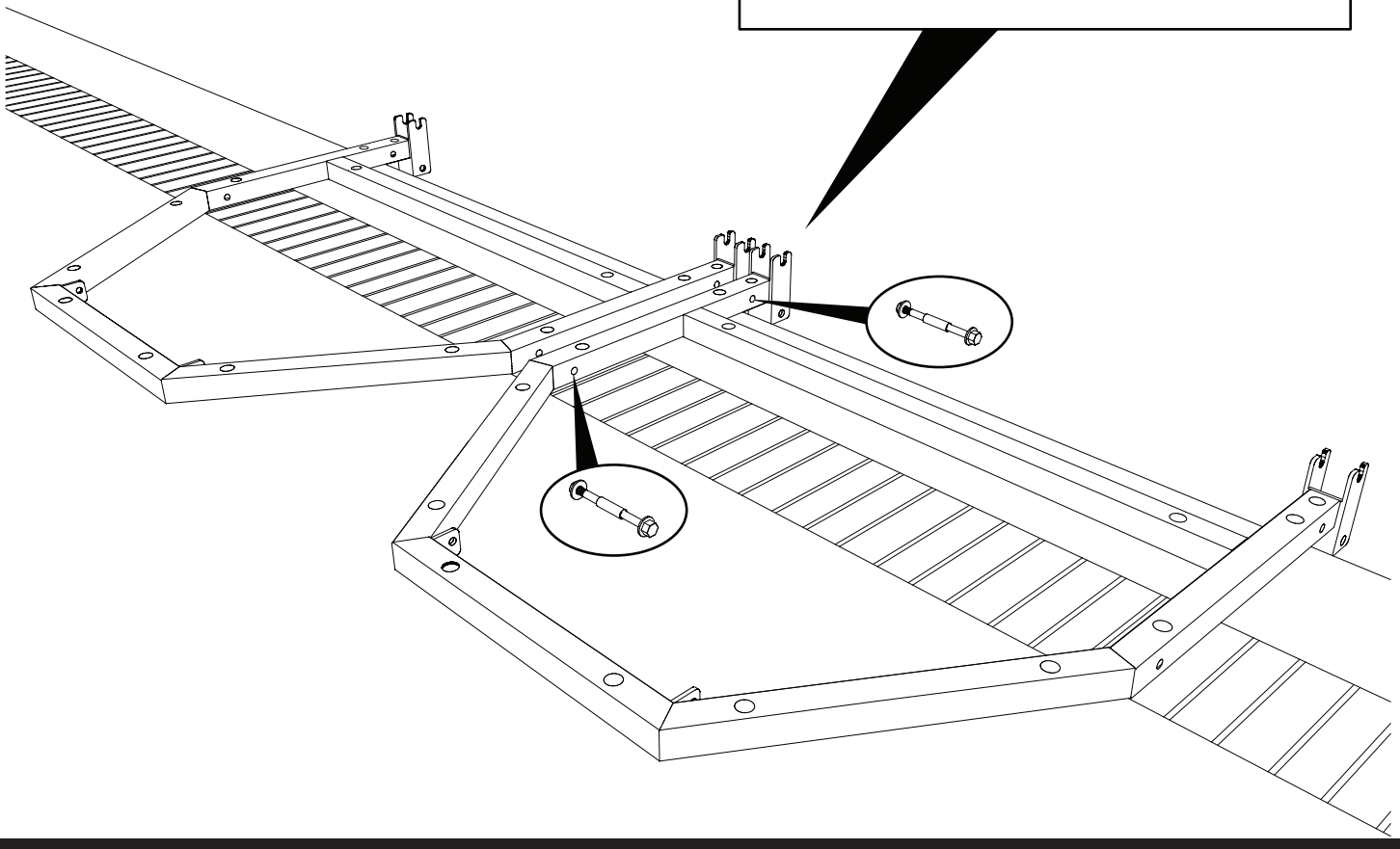
If you are only installing a 1-wide AquaClimb you may skip ahead to step 3.

Using the Frame Connector Bolts, attach all base sections together side by side. The round spacer tube is positioned on the bolt between the bases to ensure proper base spacing. Use two Frame Connector Bolts to join each adjacent frame as shown below. Make certain the bases are flat and level. It may help to place the ends of the bases over the edge of the pool so the bases lay flat while you install the connector bolts.

DO NOT TIGHTEN ANY BOLTS AT THIS TIME.

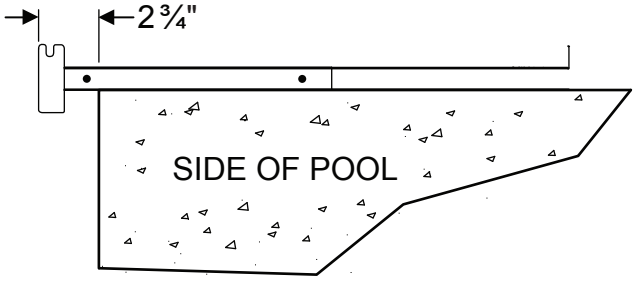
FRAME CONNECTION DETAIL





Align Bases

Before drilling any holes, position the base(s) over the marks on your pool deck that you made in Step 1. The base(s) will overhang the vertical sidewall of the pool by 2¾" as shown in the illustration at the top right.



Look through the holes in the base and align the base(s) with your anchor marks.

Double check the following:

a. All anchor locations are centered within the corresponding hole in the base.

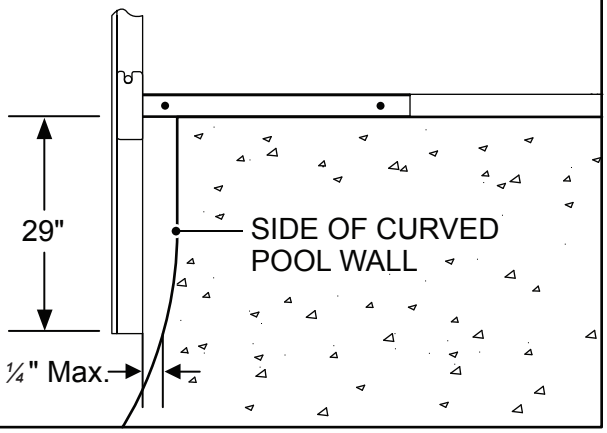
b. Your overall alignment is square with the pool.

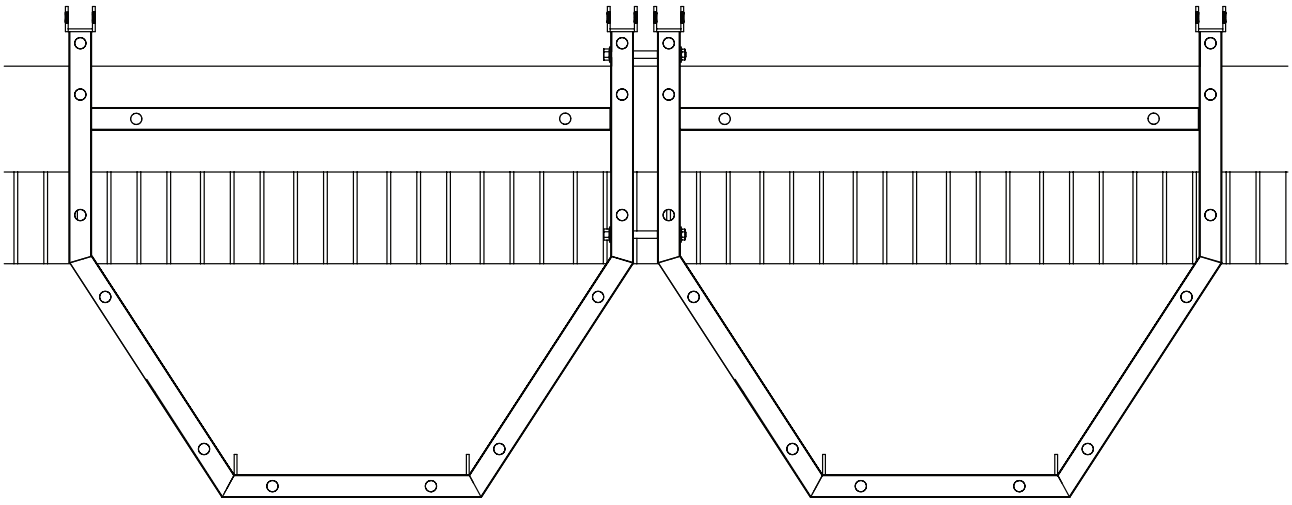
c. The bases are all exactly in line with each other.

d. All bases overhang the vertical sidewall of the pool by exactly 2¾" as shown at the top right.

If your alignment and positioning is correct, tighten the Frame Connector Bolts to securely connect the bases to each other. Double check alignment and positioning.

The Vertical lower section of the AquaClimb drops below the pool deck level by 29" therefore MAKE SURE THAT WHEN POSITIONING THE BASES THAT THE POOL WALL IS VERTICAL FOR THE FIRST 30" OR ADJUST THE DISTANCE OF THE BASES OUTWARDS TO COMPENSATE FOR THE SLOPE IN THE POOL WALL. The Gap between the pool wall and the AquaClimb frame should be no greater than 1¼".





5/8” Wedge Anchor Installation

To ensure more accurate positioning of anchors, place base of frame in proper position on floor and use the bolt holes as a guide for the drill bit, drilling just enough to start the hole.

MOVE THE FRAME TO ONE SIDE TO FINISH DRILLING THE HOLE AND TO MAKE IT EASIER TO REMOVE DUST COMPLETELY FROM THE HOLE. FAILURE TO DRILL CORRECT MINIMUM DEPTH OR REMOVE ALL DUST MAY RESULT IN ANCHOR FAILURE.

Drill The Holes

Using the a 5/8" drill bit and a rotary hammer drill, drill all of the anchor holes to a depth of 3-1/2". Clear the dust from the hole using compressed air.

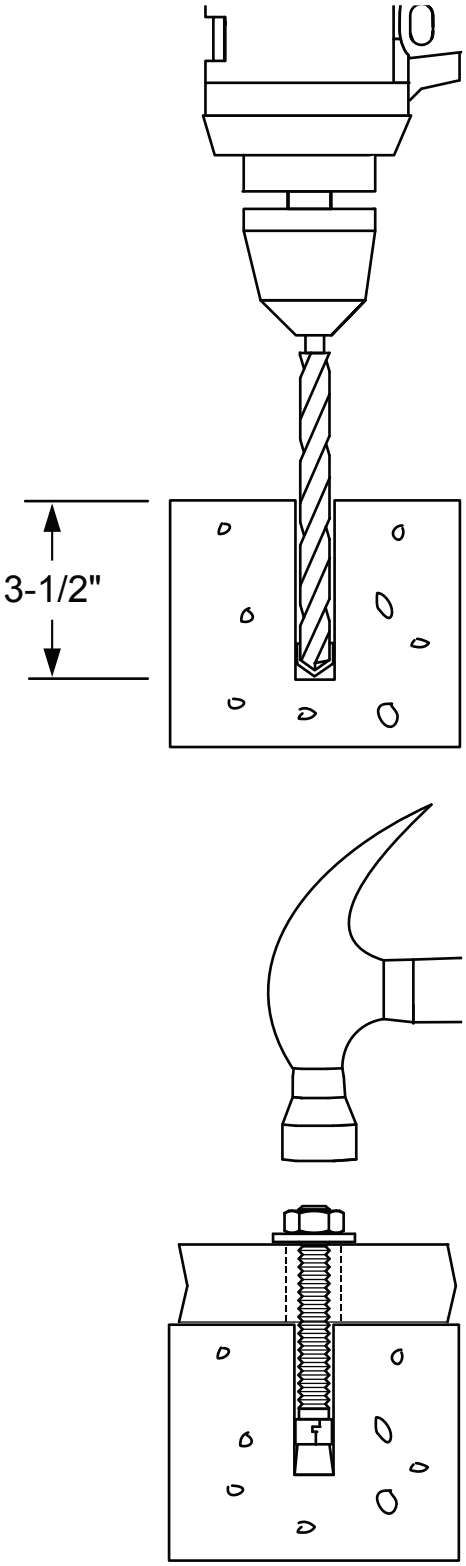
ALWAYS WEAR APPROVED EYE AND EAR PROTECTION WHEN USING A DRILL OR COMPRESSED AIR.

Install The Anchors

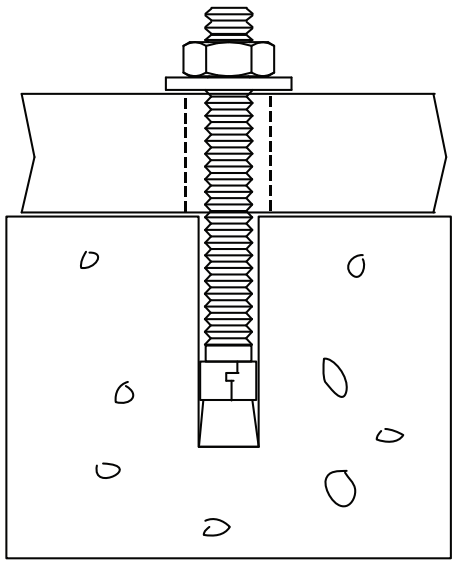
Make sure the washer and nut are positioned near the end of the anchor as shown to the right. Place the anchor through the frame and into the hole. Gently drive the anchor down until the nut and washer reach the frame.

Your anchor must be AT LEAST 2.75" deep into the concrete.

Tighten the anchor first to “finger tight” – do not use a tool at this time.



Mounting the Base Assembly

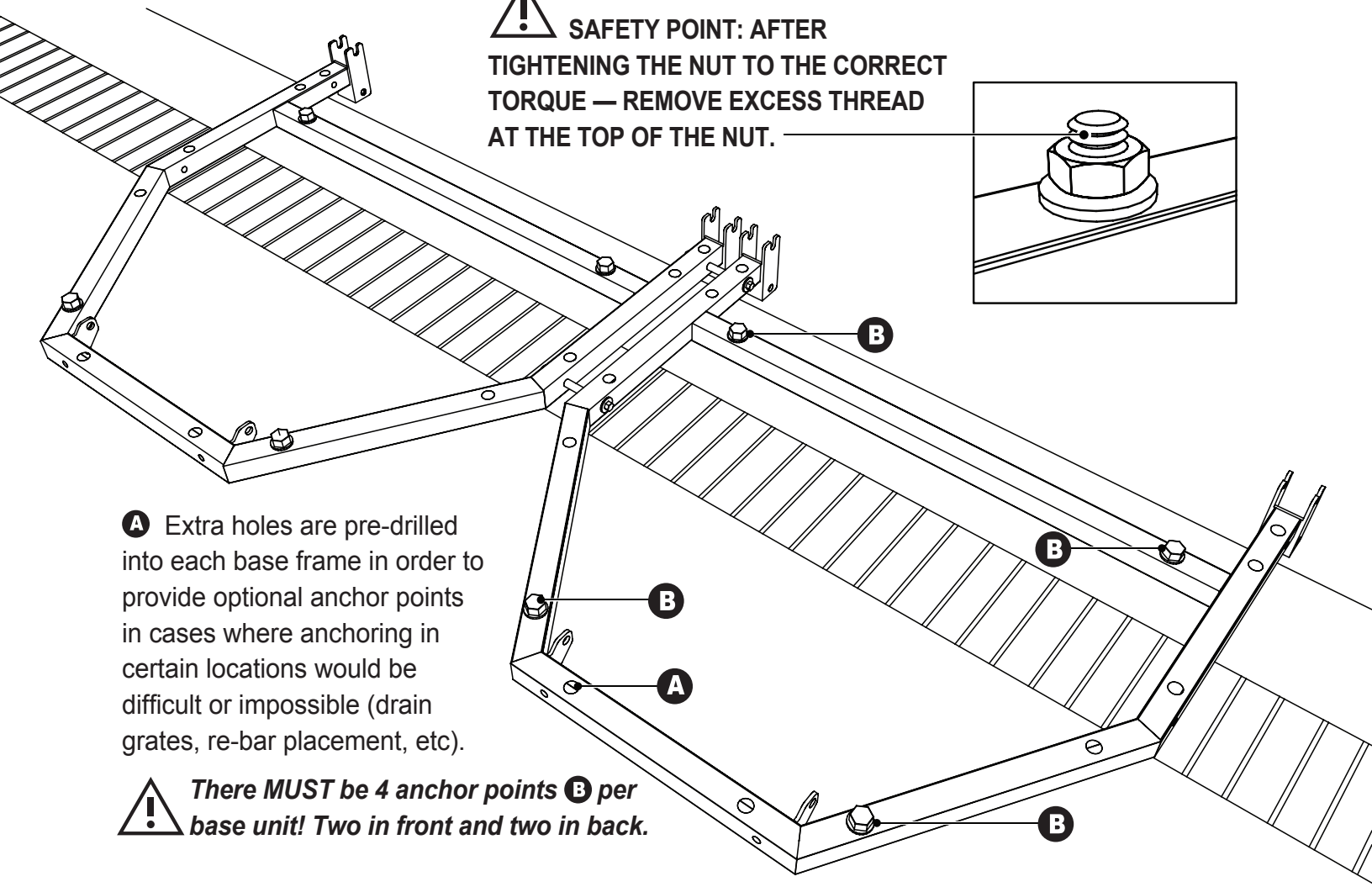


Before proceeding, double check the position of the base assembly over the anchors. Check the alignment to make certain it is square with the pool wall.

Using 5/8" Wedge Anchors:

In Step 3, you should have already positioned the base and secured the wedge anchors to finger tight. Tighten the anchor by turning the nut 3 to 5 times past finger tight. If you have a torque wrench available, tighten the nut to 90 ft-lbs.

SAFETY POINT: AFTER TIGHTENING THE NUT TO THE CORRECT TORQUE — REMOVE EXCESS THREAD AT THE TOP OF THE NUT.



Ⓐ Extra holes are pre-drilled into each base frame in order to provide optional anchor points in cases where anchoring in certain locations would be difficult or impossible (drain grates, re-bar placement, etc).

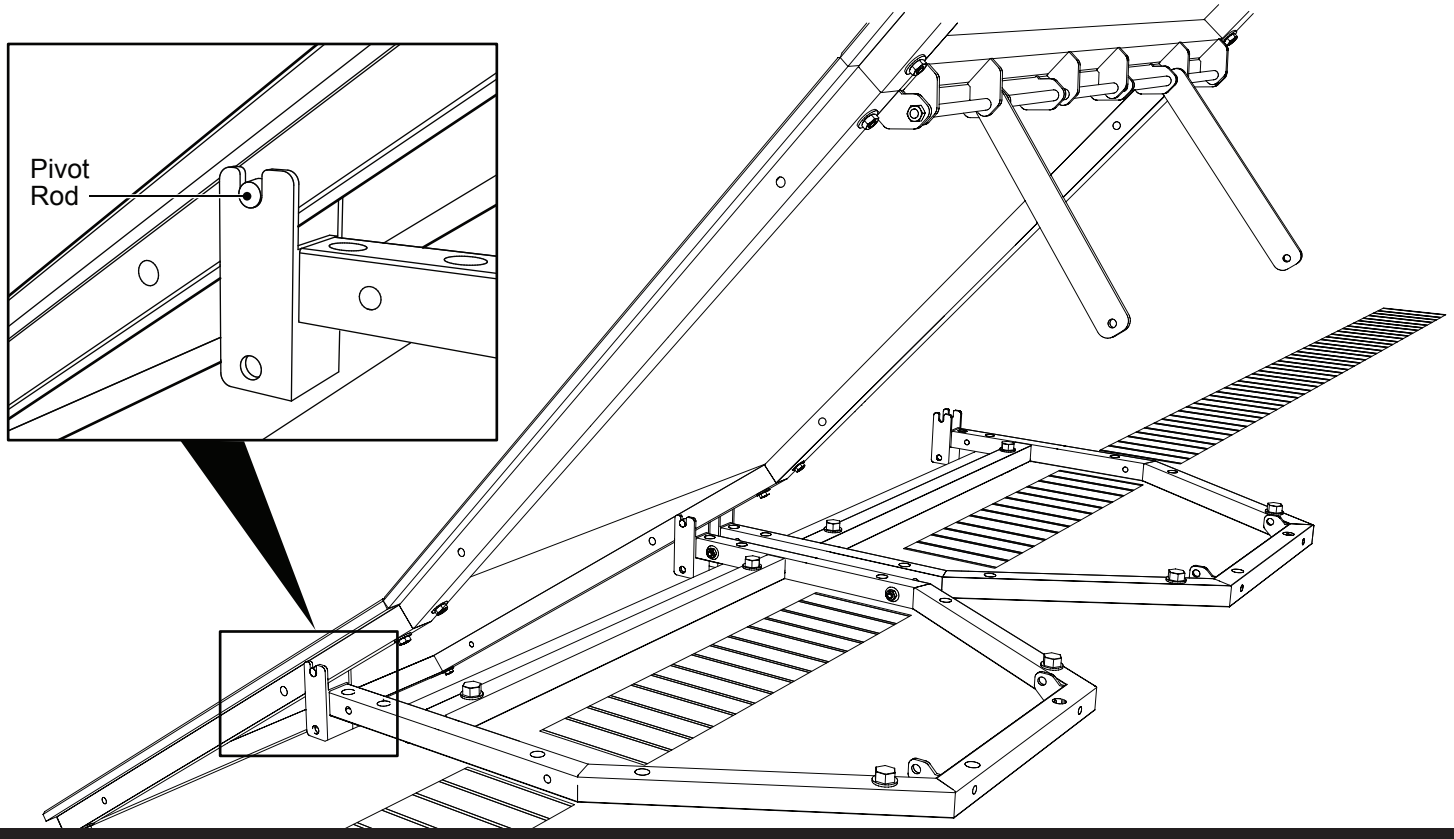
There MUST be 4 anchor points Ⓑ per base unit! Two in front and two in back.

Positioning the Frame

Position the main frame assembly with the fiberglass panels over top of the base assembly. The fiberglass panels should be facing up, and the clear panel should be away from the pool. Approximately 31" from both the left and right sides of the bottom of the main frame assembly, you will find a small pivot rod protruding from the sides of the frame. Position both pivot rods into the receivers located at the end of the base above the water. The pivot rods will engage each receiver on both sides of the metal frame, or a total of four contact points in each base section. Make sure the pivot rod is seated correctly in each of these four locations.

BEFORE YOU POSITION THE MAIN FRAME ASSEMBLY PLEASE CHECK ALL CLIMBING HOLDS AND BOLTS TO ENSURE THEY ARE FULLY TIGHTENED AND POSITIONED IN THE DESIRED SETTING. ALSO CHECK THE PANEL COLORS TO ENSURE THEY ARE IN THE DESIRED POSITION.

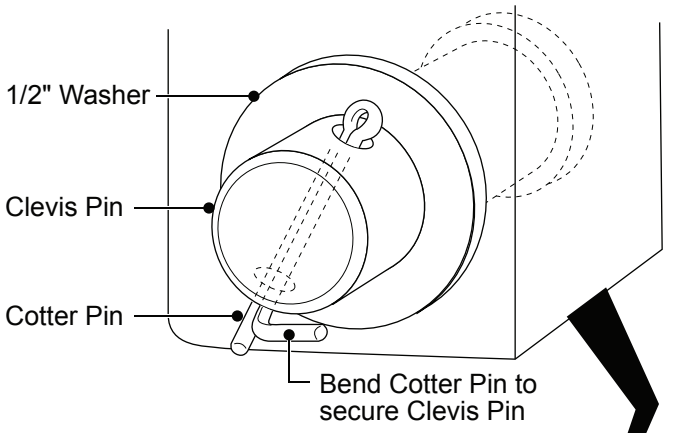
If you are installing an AquaClimb that has multiple frames, before setting them in the base it is important to make sure that you have the frames in the correct order so that all the panel colors are in the right place. Once you have determined the correct order then start the frame installation from left to right as shown in the drawing.

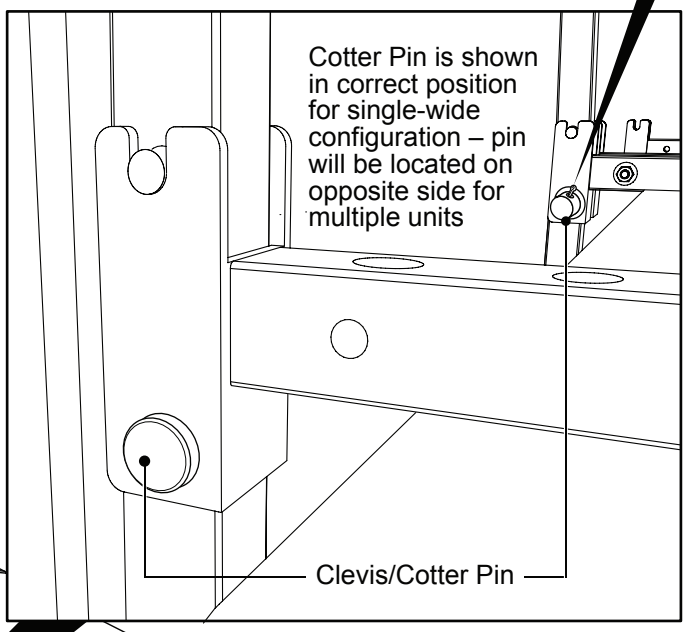


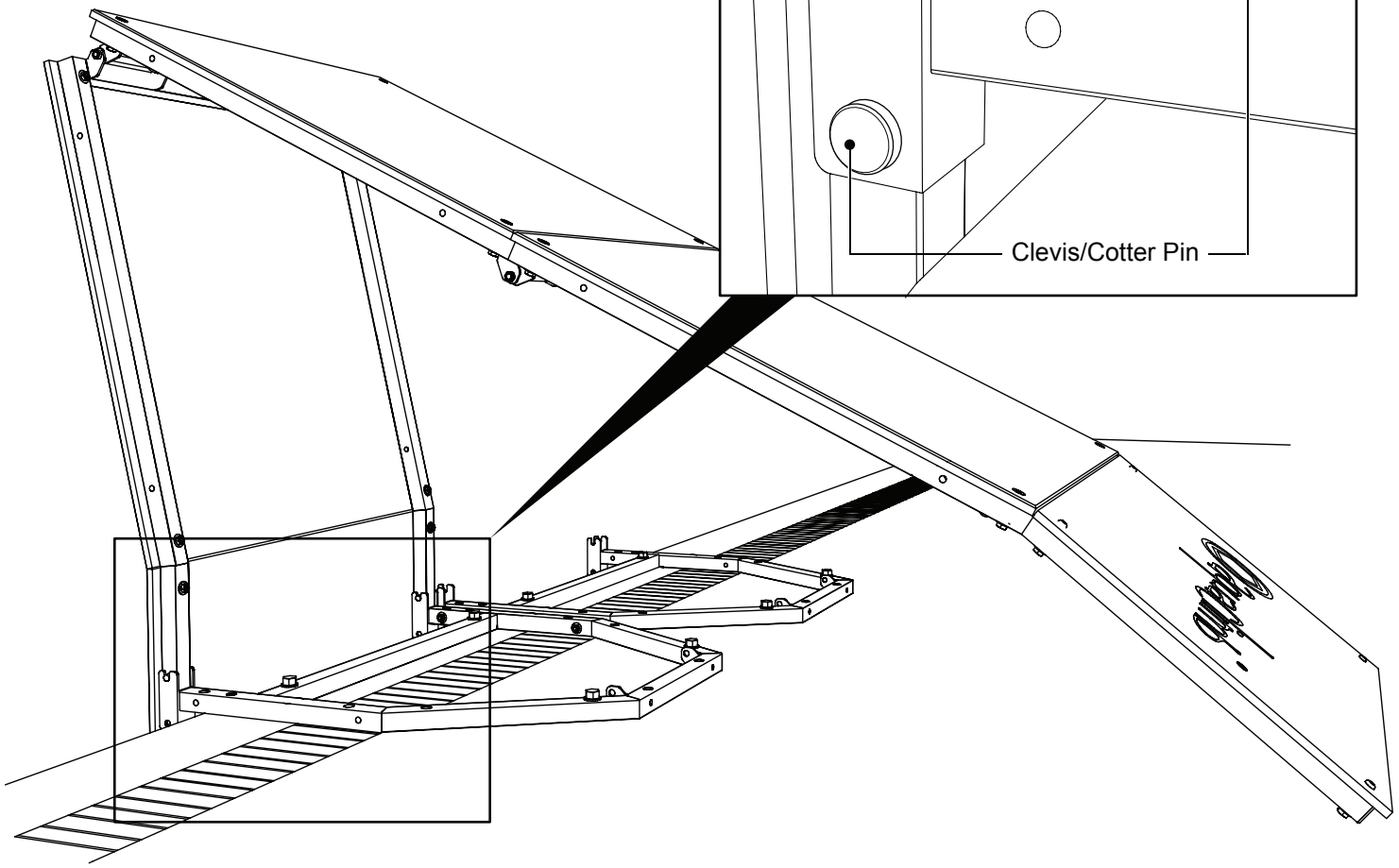
Rotate the Frame Upright

Rotate the lower portion of the main frame into the upright position. Only rotate one outside section, do not rotate any other sections until instructed.

Secure the lower portion of the upright frame by installing a clevis pin through the bottom hole in each receiver. Insert cotter pin through the hole in the end of the clevis pin. All cotter pins should be installed toward the inside of the frame rails (in order to reduce the possibility of injury), except between 2 or more units where reversing them will facilitate installation.



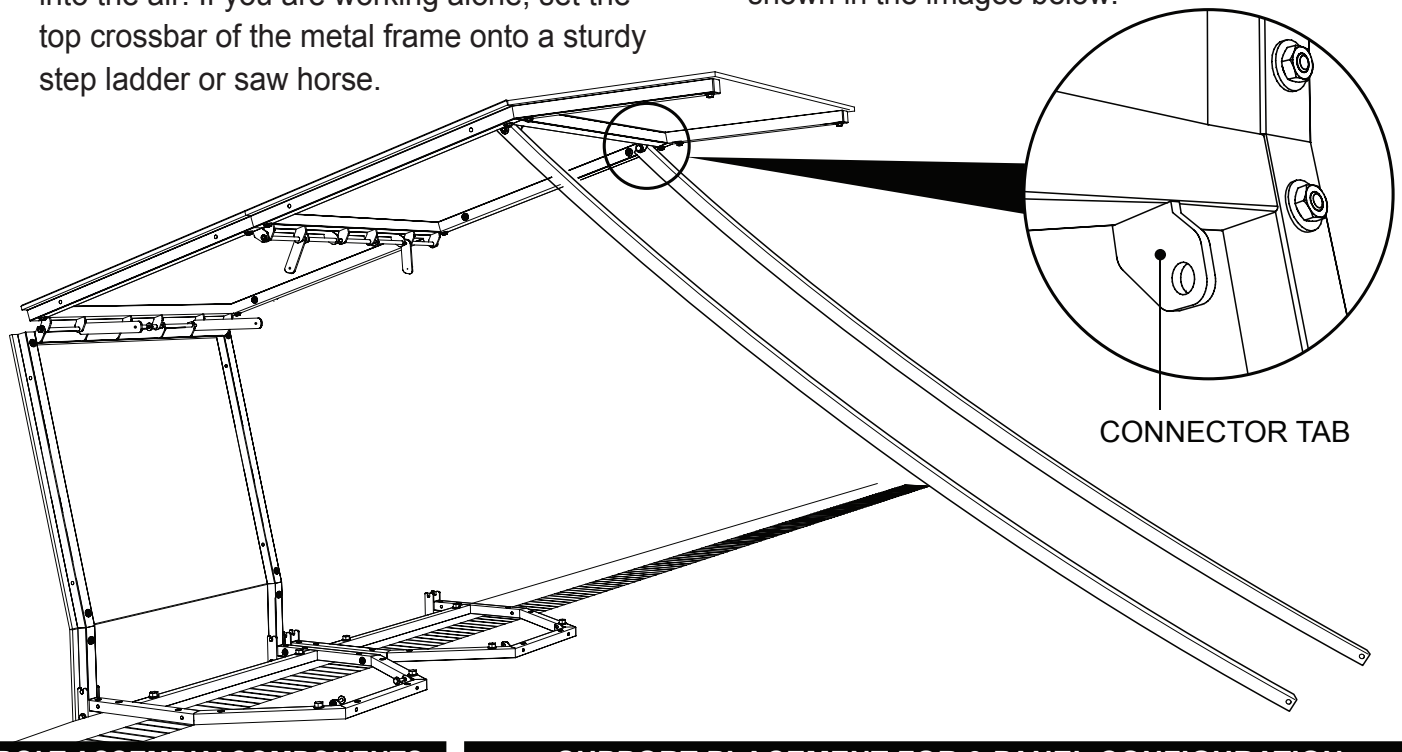




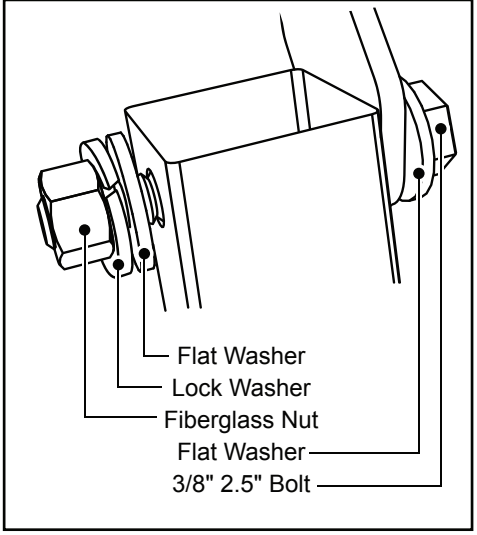
Connect the Diagonal Supports

With the help of another person, carefully lift the top end of the frame a few feet into the air. If you are working alone, set the top crossbar of the metal frame onto a sturdy step ladder or saw horse.

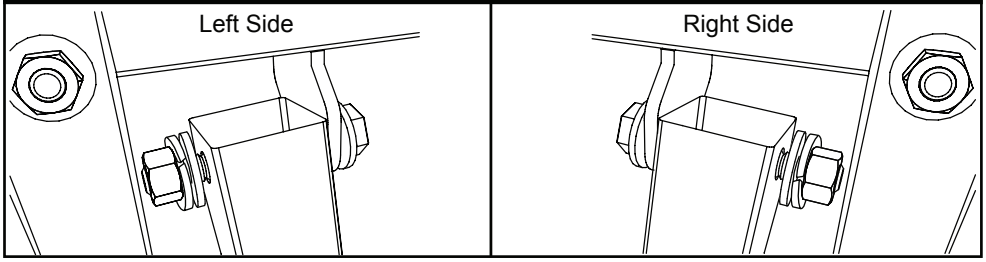
Using a 3/8" x 2.5" bolt, secure the curved diagonal braces to the outside of the connector tabs located just under the clear panel. The diagonal brace should be positioned between the tab and the side of the frame as shown in the images below.



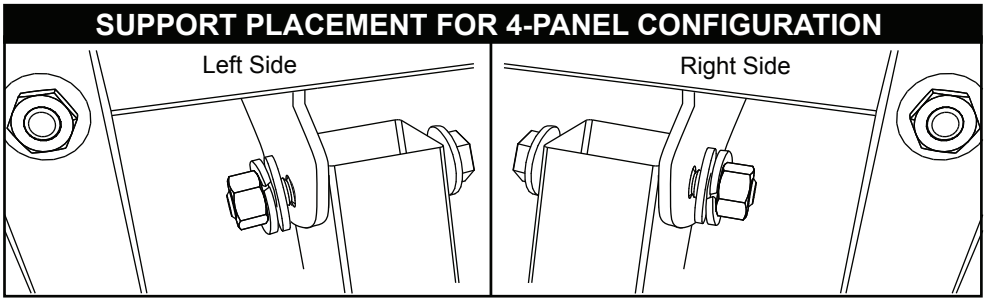
BOLT ASSEMBLY COMPONENTS (ALL 4 LOCATIONS)



SUPPORT PLACEMENT FOR 3-PANEL CONFIGURATION



SUPPORT PLACEMENT FOR 4-PANEL CONFIGURATION

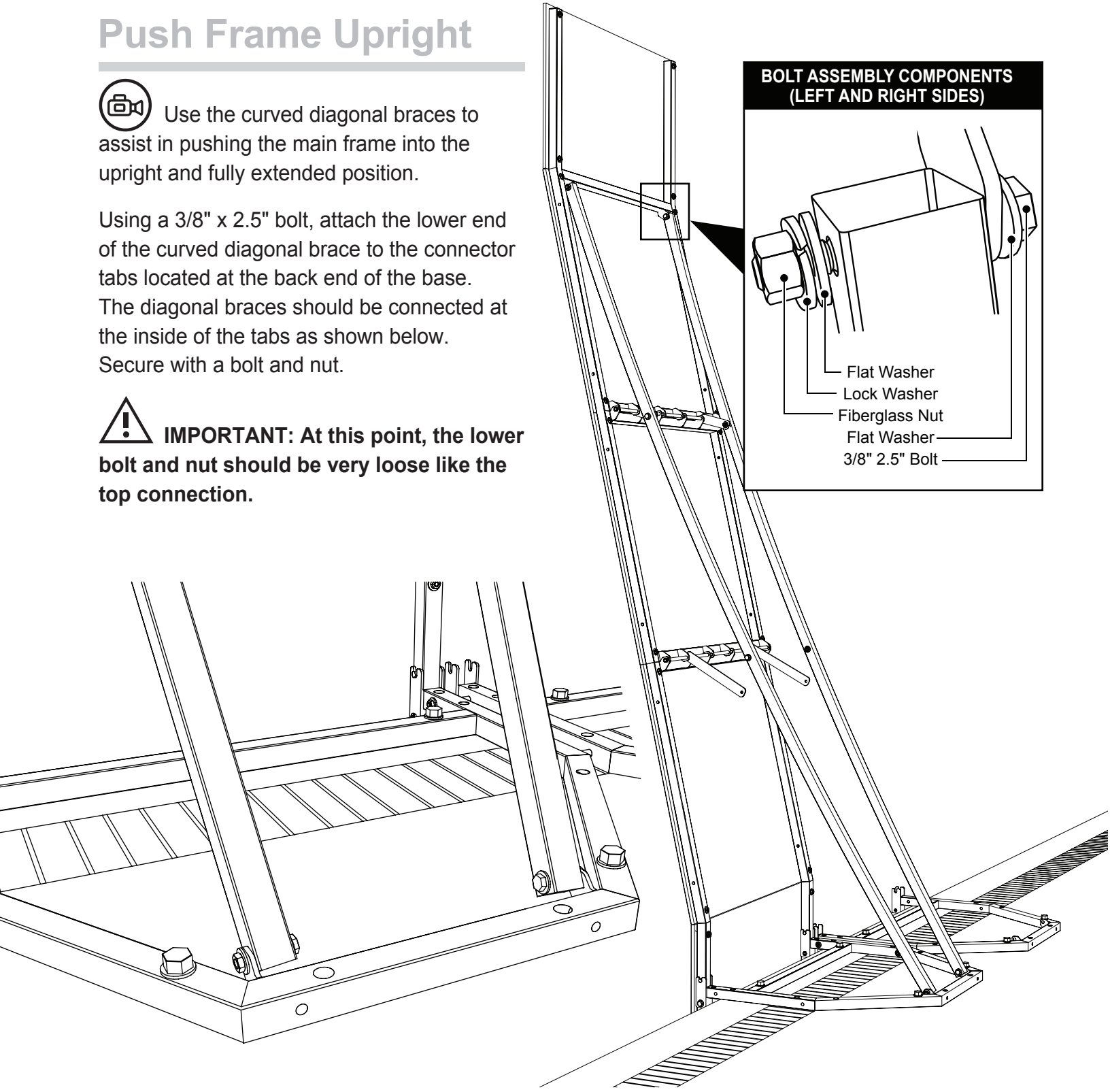


Push Frame Upright

Use the curved diagonal braces to assist in pushing the main frame into the upright and fully extended position.

Using a 3/8" x 2.5" bolt, attach the lower end of the curved diagonal brace to the connector tabs located at the back end of the base. The diagonal braces should be connected at the inside of the tabs as shown below. Secure with a bolt and nut.

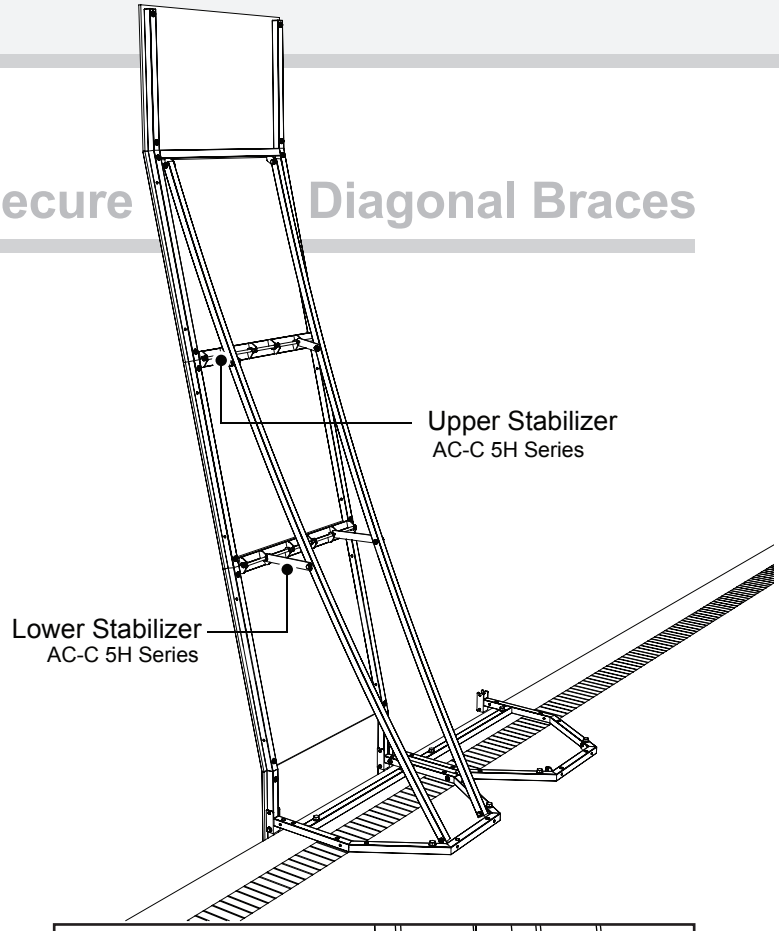
IMPORTANT: At this point, the lower bolt and nut should be very loose like the top connection.

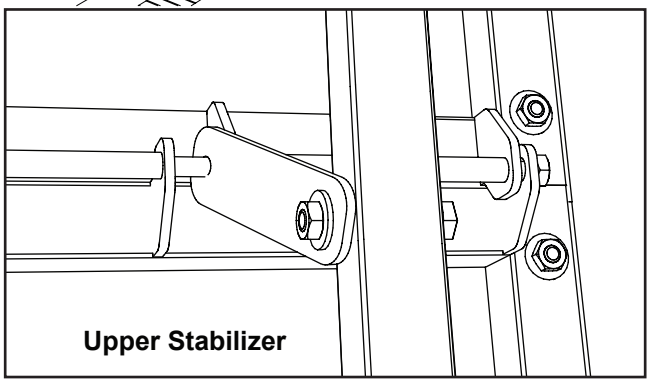


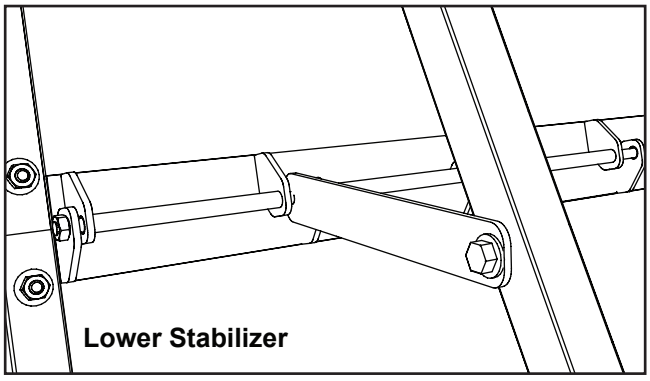
Connect Stabilizer Bars & Secure Diagonal Braces

Swing the upper and lower stabilizer bars so the end is aligned with the corresponding hole in the curved diagonal brace. Twist the diagonal braces into position, and connect the end of the stabilizer bar using a 3/8" x 2.5" bolt and nut. Position the nut so that it is on the inside of the curved diagonal braces. Do not completely tighten any nuts until you are instructed to do so.

AC-C 5H Series: (Shown to the right)
Contains upper and lower stabilizer bars as shown to the right. The upper bars connect on the inside of the curved diagonal brace. The lower bars connect on the outside of the curved diagonal brace.







If you are installing a one-wide unit ONLY:

Tighten the bolts on the stabilizer bars first. After the stabilizer bars are tight, tighten the bolts at the top and bottom of the diagonal braces. Skip ahead to Step 11.

All other models:

Do NOT tighten bolts. Repeat steps 5-8 for each upright frame section before proceeding to Step 9.

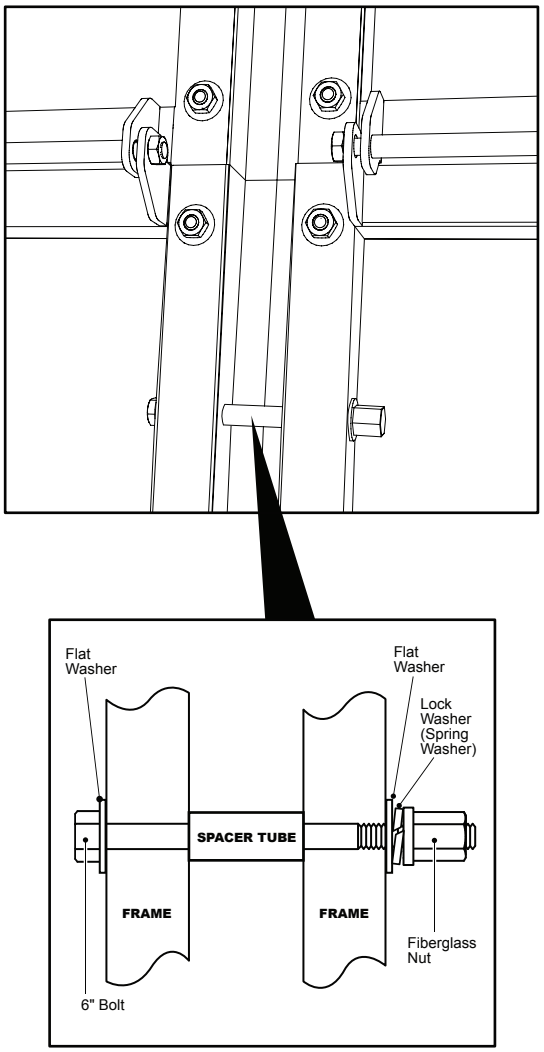
Connect Adjacent Sections

If you are installing AC-C 5H, proceed to Step 11.

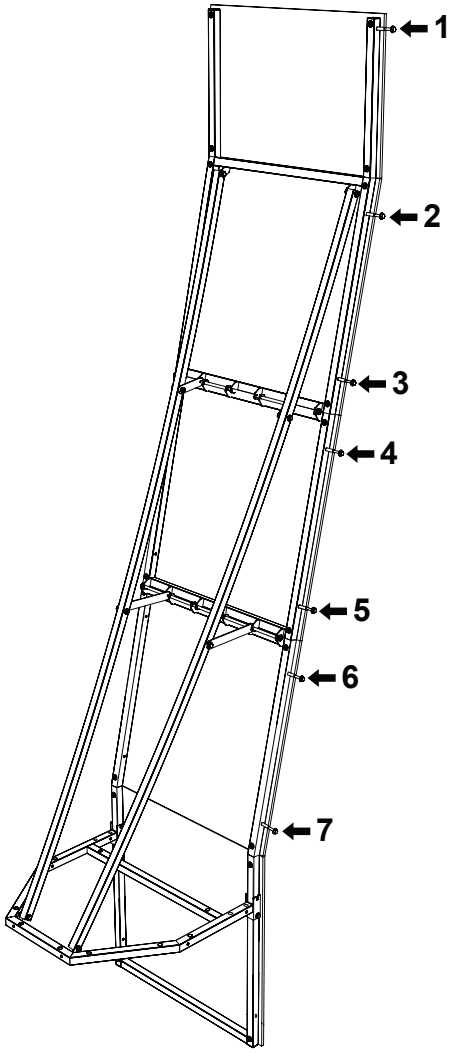
Before you tighten any bolts, repeat steps 5 through 8 for each of the vertical frame sections in your model. After all frame sections are in the upright position, connect the frames sections together using the Frame Connector Bolts.

This is the same procedure as in Step 1. The spacer tube should be positioned between the vertical frame sections. Do not fully tighten the bolts at this time.

In the diagrams below, the arrow indicates the position of the Frame Connector Bolt for each model series. The adjacent frames have been removed for clarity. There are no Frame Connector Bolts in the outside ends of the fully assembled model.



AC-C 5H

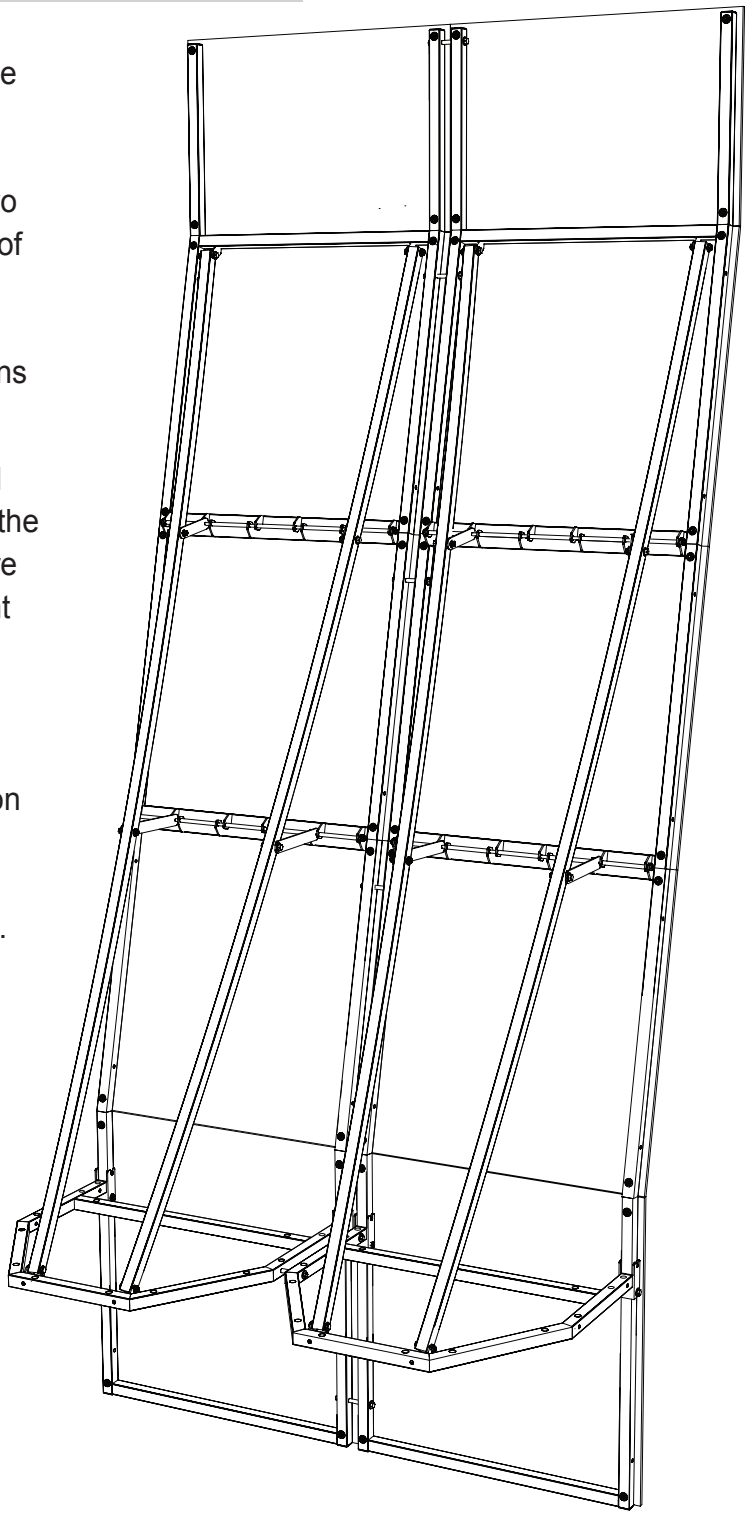


Align Frames and Tighten Bolts

Starting at one end of your AquaClimb, align the first two vertical frame sections so all of the panels are even with each other. Once the first two vertical sections are aligned, tighten each of the Frame Connector Bolts that connect those two sections. Continue to align and secure the rest of the vertical frame sections one section at a time.

After all of the vertical sections are aligned and secured, carefully double check all of the hardware connections throughout the entire unit to make sure every nut and bolt is tight and the entire frame is rigid with no play.

If any frame sections are out of alignment: Loosen, but do not remove, all the bolts connected to the curved diagonal braces on each of the sections that are misaligned. Re-align the upright frames and then re-tighten the bolts on the diagonal braces.



Bonding the AquaClimb

To conform with NEC 2008 Equipotential Bonding Article 680.26 (B) - Bonded Parts – The parts specified in 680.26 (B) (3) Metallic Components(The AquaClimb) shall be bonded together using solid copper bonding conductors, insulated covered, or bare, not smaller than 8 AWG or with rigid metal conduit of brass or other indentified corrosion-resistant metal. Connections to bonded parts shall be made in accordance with 250.8.

⚠ Please discuss this with your local Electrical Contractor to ensure that you have sufficiently conformed to this requirement.